

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) In a video decoder, a system for acquiring ~~packetized program~~ information comprising a program conveyed on one of a plurality of broadcast channels, comprising the steps of:

identifying an individual broadcast channel of said plurality of broadcast channels in response to user entry of either of, (a) a first channel identification number and (b) a different second channel identification number;

tuning to receive said identified individual broadcast channel, wherein said tuning process comprises the steps of:

determining said identified broadcast channel as being either analog or digital;

acquiring program guide information transmitted on said identified broadcast channel, wherein said program guide information is transmitted in the vertical blanking interval (VBI) of said identified broadcast channel when determined to be analog, and said program guide information is received from packetized program information of said identified broadcast channel when determined to be digital;

acquiring said packetized program information comprising a program conveyed on said individual broadcast channel using an said acquired program guide information; and

processing said packetized program information to be suitable for display.

2. (original) A system according to claim 1, wherein
said first channel identification number is a transmission channel identification number, and

 said second channel identification number is a virtual channel identification number.

3. (original) A system according to claim 2, including the step of displaying said second channel identification number together with said program, in response to entry of said first channel identification number.

4. (original) A system according to claim 1, wherein
 said second channel identification number is comprised of two

elements, a major number and a minor number.

5. (original) A system according to claim 4, including the step of displaying said major number and minor number together with said program, in response to entry of said first channel identification number.

6. (original) A system according to claim 2, including the step of displaying said first channel identification number together with said program in response to entry of said second channel identification number.

7. (original) A system according to claim 1, wherein said second channel identification number is comprised of two elements, a major number and a minor number, and in absence of user entry of said minor number a default minor number is used.

8. (original) A system according to claim 1, wherein said second channel identification number comprises a major number and a minor number, wherein
said major number is associated with both an information provider and a group of sub-channels, and
said minor number identifies a sub-channel from among said group of sub-channels.

9. (original) A system according to claim 8, wherein
said first channel identification number is a transmission channel identification number, and
said tuning step includes tuning to receive a sub-channel comprising said identified individual broadcast channel in response to user entry of said transmission channel identification number and said minor number.

10. (original) A system according to claim 1, wherein
in said identifying step said individual broadcast channel is identified using acquired program guide information.

11. (original) A system according to claim 1, including the step of searching a database to identify an individual broadcast channel of said plurality of broadcast channels in response to user entry of either of, said first channel identification number and said different second channel identification number.

12. (currently amended) In a video decoder, a system for acquiring packetized program information comprising a program conveyed on one of a

plurality of broadcast channels, comprising the steps of:

acquiring a first program guide containing information mapping a first broadcast channel number to a first different second channel number, said acquired program guide being one of a plurality of different available program guides ~~including a program guide omitting said mapping information;~~

acquiring a second program guide, different from said first program guide, containing information mapping said second broadcast channel number to a second different channel number, said second acquired program being one of said plurality of different available program guides,

tuning to receive packetized program information transmitted on said first different channel in response to user entry of said first broadcast channel number using said acquired program guide;

acquiring packetized program information comprising a program conveyed on said second first different channel.

13. (currently amended) A system according to claim 12, wherein said first broadcast channel number is a virtual channel identification number, and

 said second first different channel identification number is a transmission channel identification number.

14. (original) A system according to claim 12, wherein said first broadcast channel number is comprised of two elements, a major number and a minor number.

15. (original) A system according to claim 12, wherein said first broadcast channel number is comprised of two elements, a major number and a minor number, and in absence of user entry of said minor number, a default minor number is used.

16. (original) A system according to claim 14, wherein said major number is associated with a broadcast information provider.

17. (currently amended) A system according to claim 12, including the step of

 selecting said second program guide and corresponding channel mapping information containing mapping information from said plurality of different available program guides ~~including said program guide omitting said mapping information.~~ over said first program guide information when said first broadcast number and said second broadcast number are the same.

18. (currently amended) A system according to claim 12, including the step of

displaying at least one of, (a) said first broadcast channel number, and (b) said second first different channel number, together with said program, in response to user entry of said first broadcast channel number.

19. (original) A system according to claim 18, wherein said first broadcast channel number comprises a major number and a minor number, wherein

said major number is associated with both an information provider and a group of sub-channels, and

said minor number identifies a sub-channel from among said group of sub-channels.

20. (currently amended) A system according to claim 12, wherein said first broadcast channel number comprises a major number and a minor number, wherein

said major number is associated with both an information provider and a group of sub-channels, and

said minor number identifies a sub-channel from among said group of sub-channels, and

said second first different channel number is a transmission channel identification number, and

said tuning step includes tuning to receive a sub-channel comprising said second channel in response to user entry of said transmission channel identification number and said minor number.

Claims 21-23 (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) In a video decoder, a system for tuning to acquire packetized program information comprising a program conveyed on one of a plurality of broadcast channels identified by a physical transmission number corresponding to a virtual channel and a virtual channel identification number of said virtual channel including a major number associated with an information provider and a group of sub-channels and a minor number identifying a sub-channel from among said group of sub-channels, comprising the steps of:

navigating within a first list, including a plurality of broadcast channels, to identify and select a broadcast channel and an associated virtual channel identification number, in response to user activation of a first navigation control, wherein the physical transmission number corresponding to said virtual channel identified number is displayed with said virtual channel identification

number;

navigating within a second list of a group of sub-channels associated with said selected broadcast channel to identify and select a sub-channel and an associated minor number, in response to user activation of a second navigation control;

tuning to receive a selected broadcast channel using said selected virtual channel identification number; and

acquiring packetized program information comprising a program conveyed on said broadcast sub-channel using said minor number.

25. (original) A system according to claim 24, wherein

 said first navigation control comprises a control for incrementally or decrementally traversing through numbered broadcast channels, and

 said second navigation control comprises a control for incrementally or decrementally traversing through numbered sub-channels.

26. (original) A system according to claim 24, wherein

 said first and second navigation controls use the same user activated remote control unit button.

27. (original) A system according to claim 24, wherein

 said first and second navigation controls use different user activated remote control unit buttons.

28. (original) A system according to claim 24, wherein

 said first navigation control comprises a control for incrementally or decrementally traversing through a displayed menu listing numbered broadcast channels, and

 said second navigation control comprises a control for incrementally or decrementally traversing through a displayed menu listing numbered sub-channels.

29. (original) A system according to claim 24, including the steps of generating a displayed menu listing numbered broadcast channels incrementally or decrementally traversed in response to said first navigation control, and

 generating a displayed menu listing numbered sub-channels incrementally or decrementally traversed in response to said second navigation control.